



**The House of Representatives
STATE OF HAWAII**

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
March 16, 2006

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS CALL FOR STUDIES ON ALL DAMS, STREAMS AND DRAINAGE CHANNELS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII

Honolulu. Representative Ken Ito, chairman of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, as co-ordinator with Rep. Sylvia Luke, introduced two resolutions yesterday in response to the Kaloko Reservoir dam breach disaster on Kauai.

House Resolution 223 (House Concurrent Resolution 288) requests that the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the Adjutant General conduct a study of all public and privately owned dams in the state.

Specifically, HR 223/HCR 288 instructs that the study include, but not be limited to:

- The ownership of all dams
- The condition of each dam, noting any deficiencies
- The estimated damage that may be incurred if the dam were to fail
- An action plan to address the maintenance of all dams
- An action plan to address the repair and restoration of dams with deficiencies that raises safety concerns and are classified as "high hazard"
- A determination of what course of action the State must take if the owner of a dam refuses to repair or restore a private dam as directed by a state agency

House Resolution 222 (House Concurrent Resolution 287) requests that the BLNR Chairperson and the Adjutant General conduct a study of all streams and drainage channels in the state.

(more)

Specifically, HR 222/HCR 287 instructs that the study include, but not be limited to:

- The ownership of all streams and drainage channels statewide
- An assessment of the damage to private and public property caused by the overflow of these streams and drainage channels
- Strategic plans to address the maintenance of public and privately owned streams and drainage channels
- Action plans to address the cleanup and restoration of public and privately owned streams and drainage channels in the aftermath of a storm
- A recommendation as to whether all privately owned streams and drainage channels should be owned, maintained, cleaned up, and restored by the State or the Counties in the aftermath of a rain storm

Representative Michael Magaoay has introduced a similar resolution, HR 212/HCR272, urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to inspect all dams in the state to determine whether any of them are in imminent or short-term danger of failure.

The findings of both studies, including recommendations and any proposed legislation, if necessary, are to be submitted to the Legislature not later than 20 days prior to the start of the 2007 Legislative session in January.

###